

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KIRPICHNIKOV et al  
Serial No.: New  
Filing Date: August 8, 2001  
For: METHOD OF INFORMATION COLLECTION AND PROCESSING OF  
SAMPLE'S SURFACE

3/Pae  
a  
8/2/01  
39-02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified  
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3-6, 8 and 17 as follows:

3. (amended) Method, as set forth in claim 1, characterized in,  
that a set of arguments are formed by values of cantilever's deviation  
force and/or coordinate of its fixed end and/or derivatives from  
cantilever's deviation force of coordinate of its fixed end at least in  
points of control; determination of parameters is carried out by forming  
a set functions, using received arguments and determination of their  
values.

4. (amended) Method, as set forth in claim 1, characterized in,  
that points, limiting quasi-rectilinear portions of force curve, and/or  
points, where force curve shifts slope jumpy, are chosen as points of  
control.

Sub  
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Ant